

**CLAIMS**

1. A rotary variable orifice valve comprising a cylindrical member, a sleeve which is a rotational fit with respect to the cylindrical member, and an orifice.
2. A rotary variable orifice valve according to claim 1 in which the sleeve is a rotational fit inside the cylindrical member.
3. A rotary variable orifice valve according to claim 1 in which the sleeve is a rotational fit over the cylindrical member.
4. A rotary variable orifice valve according to claim 1 in which the orifice is of a shape that causes the resistance to flow of the rotary variable orifice valve to increase with rotation.
5. A rotary variable orifice valve according to claim 1 in which the orifice is of a triangular shape.
6. A rotary variable orifice valve according to claim 1 in which the cylindrical member has an aperture, the sleeve has the orifice, and the aperture and the orifice are positioned such that they overlap as the sleeve rotates.

7. A rotary variable orifice valve according to claim 1 in which the cylindrical member has the orifice, the sleeve has an aperture, and the aperture and the orifice are positioned such that they overlap as the sleeve rotates.
8. A rotary variable orifice valve according to claim 1 in which the orifice is positioned partly in the cylindrical member and partly in the sleeve.
9. The combination of a rotary variable orifice valve according to claim 1, and a motor for operating the rotary variable orifice valve.